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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/032,311      | 12/21/2001  | Robert W. Doms       | 53893-5012-01       | 6825             |

28977 7590 07/22/2004

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PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103-2921

EXAMINER

PARKIN, JEFFREY S

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|

1648

DATE MAILED: 07/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/032,311

**Applicant(s)**

DOMS ET AL.

**Examiner**

Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D.

**Art Unit**

1648

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 01 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-49 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### Restriction Requirement

#### 35 U.S.C. § 121

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- a. Group I, claim(s) 1-8, drawn to sundry isolated **lipoparticles** comprising multiple membrane spanning proteins, classified in class 424, subclass 199.1.
- b. Group II, claim(s) 9-26, drawn to a **composition** comprising sundry isolated **lipoparticles** comprising multiple membrane spanning proteins **attached** to a **sensor**, classified in class 424, subclass 9.34.
- c. Group III, claim(s) 27-32, 42, and 43, drawn to a **method** and kit for **assessing binding interactions** between a **ligand** and **membrane spanning protein**, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- d. Group IV, claim(s) 33-40, 45, and 46, drawn to a **method** and kit for **identifying potential ligands** capable of binding to a **membrane protein**, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- e. Group V, claim(s) 41, drawn to a **ligand**, classified in class 530, subclasses 300 and 350.
- f. Group VI, claim(s) 42 and 47-49, drawn to a **method** and kit for **identifying compounds** capable of **modulating ligand:membrane protein receptor binding**, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I, II, and V are each unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (M.P.E.P. § 806.04 and § 808.01). In the instant case, each of the identified groups is directed toward structurally and functionally different products (e.g., lipoparticle, conjugate, or ligand). Separate searches will clearly be required for each group. Accordingly, each group is clearly directed toward a different inventive concept.

Inventions III, IV, and VI are each unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (M.P.E.P. § 806.04 and § 808.01). In the instant case, each of the identified groups is directed toward a different methodology that employs different scientific reagents and assay steps. Separate searches will also be required for each group. Therefore, each group is clearly directed toward a different invention.

Inventions I/V and III/IV/VI are each unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (M.P.E.P. § 806.04 and § 808.01). In the instant case, the methodologies of groups II/III/VI neither require nor utilize the products of groups I/V.

Inventions II and III/IV/VI are related as product and processes of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (M.P.E.P. § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the conjugated lipoparticle can be employed in a number of materially different processes such as drug delivery, drug discovery, or ligand binding assays.

Applicants are further advised that within Groups I, II, and IV, there are a number of independent and distinct inventions. However, due to the large number of combinations contained within this grouping, it would be too laborious to set forth each invention individually. Accordingly, applicants are required to specify the precise characteristics and nature of the lipoparticle (e.g., one specific virus [MLV, HIV, rabies virus, RSV, or VSV] should be elected if the particle is viral in nature) and the precise characteristics of the membrane spanning protein (e.g., one

specific G-protein-coupled receptor [CXCR3], transporter protein [glucose transporter], or ion channel protein [Kv1.3] should also be elected). Thus, if Group I is elected, and a viral particle is elected, the specific virus should be set forth (e.g., a MLV lipoparticle) and the specific membrane-spanning protein (e.g., CXCR3) should be set forth. Each of these inventions is independent and distinct because they are directed toward structurally different particles and proteins. Each of the identified viruses displays different physical, structural, immunological, and virological properties. Each of the identified proteins displays a different structure and function. Separate searches would clearly be required for each invention.

Applicants are further advised that the aforementioned groups may also contain linking claims (i.e., claim 1 links the aforementioned inventions of Group I). See M.P.E.P. § 809.03. The restriction requirement of the linked inventions is subject to the non-allowance of the linking claim(s). Upon the allowance of the linking claim(s), the restriction requirement as to the linked inventions shall be withdrawn and any claim(s) depending from or otherwise including all the limitations of the allowable linking claim(s) will be entitled to examination in the instant application. Applicant(s) are advised that if any such claim(s) depending from or including all the limitations of the allowable linking claim(s) is/are presented in a continuation or divisional application, the claims of the continuation or divisional application may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Where a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 121 are no longer applicable. *In re Ziegler*, 44 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 U.S.P.Q. 129, 131-32 (C.C.P.A. 1971). See also M.P.E.P. § 804.01.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, recognized divergent subject

matter, and require separate searches, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 C.F.R. § 1.143). Applicant is also advised that the claims should be amended to reflect the election, where necessary.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

Applicants are reminded that a restriction between product and process claims has been set forth *supra*. When applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found to be allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include **all** the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of § 821.04 of the M.P.E.P. Process claims that depend from or otherwise include **all** the limitations of the patentable product will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 while amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.312.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims **must** meet all criteria for patentability as set forth under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101, 102, 103, and

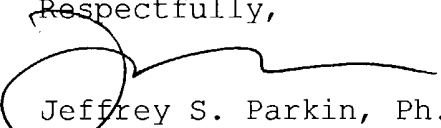
112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. **Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined.** See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer*, and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so will result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Furthermore, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. § 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See M.P.E.P. § 804.01.

#### **Correspondence**

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571) 272-0908. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM. A message may be left on the examiner's voice mail service. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisors, Laurie Scheiner or James Housel, can be reached at (571) 272-0910 or (571) 272-0902, respectively. Direct general inquiries to the Technology Center 1600 receptionist at (571) 272-1600.

Formal communications may be submitted through the official facsimile number which is (703) 872-9306. Hand-carried formal communications should be directed toward the customer window located in Crystal Plaza Two, 2011 South Clark Place, Arlington, VA. Applicants are directed toward the O.G. Notice for further guidance. 1280 O.G. 681. Informal communications may be submitted to the Examiner's RightFAX account at (571) 273-0908.

Respectfully,

  
Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D.  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 1648

19 July, 2004